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Welfare to appoint more Harijans as trustees in temples to facilitate the abolition of untouchability. This is what I have stated in my original answer itself.''

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—'' The Hon. Minister for Finance while intervening said that a member of the Harijan Community was in charge of the portfolio of ' Harijan Welfare '. May I point out to him that simply because a Harijan is in charge of this portfolio and is a Cabinet Minister, he cannot solve the problem? The question is why Government have delayed the matter so long in coming to a decision for appointing Harijans as trustees and servants in our temples.''

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—'' As the Hon. the Finance Minister observed, Harijans have already been appointed as trustees for the last six or seven years. The question of appointing more Harijans as trustees and menials such as cooks in the temples is under the consideration of Government.''

Extension of the provisions of the Madras Slum Improvement (Acquisition of Land) Act and the Madras Tenants and Ryots Protection Act to all municipalities.

* 523 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received a copy of the resolutions passed at the Fourth Annual Conference of the Chamber of Municipal Chairmen on 8th February 1954 at Madras urging the Government for the extension of the provisions of the Madras Slum Improvement (Acquisition of Land) Act, 1954, and the Madras Tenants and Ryots Protection Act to all municipalities; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—

'' (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

'' (*b*) Does not arise.''

SRI A. RATNAM :—'' Madras Slum Improvement Act இந்திய ஜனாதிபதியின் அங்கீகாரம் பெற்றுவிட்டதா ? கவர்னர் அவர்கள் சொல்லிய பிரகாரம் அதிற்கண்டபடி நடவடிக்கைகளை எடுத்துக்கொள்ள சர்க்கார் முன் வந்திருக்கிறதா என்று நான் கேட்கிறேன்.''

Mr. SPEAKER :—'' நீங்கள் கேள்வி ஒன்று கேட்கிறீர்கள். உப கேள்வி ஒன்று போடுகிறீர்கள். உங்கள் பிரதானக் கேள்வியையே படித்து பாருங்கள். எப்படி இந்த உப கேள்வி அதன் கீழ் வரும் ? the hon. Member may give notice of a separate question.''

Assignment of house-sites to Harijans in Mannargudi taluk.

* 524 *Q.*—SRI A. K. SUBBIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Animal Husbandry be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any applications from the Harijans of Perugavalandhan, Mannargudi taluk, for the assignment of house-sites to them ; and

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(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) The application was made by the Harijans on the presumption that the sites in which they were residing were Natham poramboke lands. But it was found on enquiry that the sites were in private holdings, that there was no threat of eviction from the owners of the sites and that the relationship between the Harijans and their landlords was smooth and harmonious. No action was therefore taken to acquire the sites for assignment to the Harijans."

SRI K. V. RAMASWAMI :—"ஹரிஜனங்கள் ஒரு இடத்தில் மனை நிலம் வேண்டுமென்று விண்ணப்பித்துக்கொண்டால் அந்த இடம் அவர்களுக்கு வழங்குவதற்கு லாயக்கானதாக இருந்தாலும்கூட அதைக் கொடுக்காது வேறுயிடத்தில் லாயக்கற்ற இடங்களைக் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். இதைப் போக்க சர்க்கார் முன் வருமா ?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" That is a general question. As far as this matter is concerned, Harijans do not want to leave their place. Even though the Collector offered to them some other place which is quite compact and healthy, the Harijans refused to move from their place."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவில் பல நிலச்சுவாந்தார்கள் தங்கள் மனைக்கட்டுகளில் குடியிருக்கும் ஹரிஜனங்களை நிர்ப்பந்தப்படுத்தி காலி செய்யும்படியாக வற்புறுத்துகிறார்கள் என்பது சர்க்காருக்குத் தெரியுமா ? அதைத் தடுக்க சர்க்கார் என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கப் போகிறார்கள் ?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The question relates in particular to Mannargudi taluk."

Regeneration operations in the forests.

* 525 *Q*.—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount spent on forest regeneration operations in the present Madras State during 1952–53 ; and

(*b*) the extent of the forest undertaken for regeneration operation during 1952–53?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Rs. 2,60,799.

" (*b*) 4,099 acres."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware of the fact that only a particular kind of tree is grown in many of our forests? May I also know the steps taken by Government to improve the regeneration operations in our forests? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would like to give the hon. Member some information about planting of